

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INSURANCE

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HB 2040 – Chapter 243 – *residential mortgage fraud

Establishes the crime of mortgage fraud and assesses a Class 2 or Class 4 felony for a violation, depending on severity.

HB 2134 – Chapter 67 – small business; uniform health questionnaire

Establishes a Health Status Questionnaire Committee within the Department of Insurance that is responsible for developing a uniform health status questionnaire to simplify the health insurance application process for small groups.

HB 2139 – Chapter 113 – *insurance: wellness programs

Allows group disability insurers to provide or offer rewards or incentives under a wellness program in compliance with the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPPA). Permits individual disability insurers to provide or offer rewards or incentives under wellness programs that comply with the equivalent of the requirements under the HIPAA.

HB 2188 – Chapter 115 – insurance guaranty fund

Makes various changes to the Property and Casualty Insurance Guaranty Fund, including requiring that the members of the Guaranty Fund Board be representative of cross sections of the industry who are authorized to transact property or casualty insurance in Arizona.

HB 2189 – Chapter 69 – insurance; actuarial opinion; memorandum requirements

Repeals and rewrites the Arizona Revised Statutes, Chapter 3, Article 8, pertaining to the Actuarial Opinion and Memorandum Requirements and requires all life insurers conduct asset adequacy analyses.

HB 2198 – Chapter 70 – bank lending limits

Increases the amount a bank may lend a single borrower from 15 percent to 20 percent of its capital.

HB 2268 – Chapter 147 – cancer insurance; firefighters; peace officers

Extends the benefits of the Firefighter Cancer Insurance Policy Program to certified peace officers.

HB 2294 – Chapter 122 – captive insurer amendments

Allows the establishment of branch captive insurers, decreases the minimum unimpaired paid-in capital and surplus amount that a protected cell captive insurer must maintain for licensure from \$1 million to \$500 thousand and requires each owner of an agency captive insurer to be licensed as an insurance producer or managing general agent.

HB 2405 – Chapter 148 – workers' compensation; premium reduction

Allows an insurance carrier to reduce an employer's workers' compensation insurance premium by 5 percent if the employer conducts drug and alcohol testing of employees.

HB 2478 – Chapter 90 – credit unions; loans; repayment penalties

Grants credit unions the ability to charge prepayment penalties on member business loans.

SB 1073 – Chapter 28 – deferred annuities; cash surrender; payment

Requires insurance companies to pay any amounts due under an annuity contract within 30 days from the date the amount becomes payable.

SB 1098 – Chapter 48 – insurance; wellness programs; discriminatory practices

Permits any person or health benefits plan to provide or offer rewards or incentives under wellness programs that comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPPA).

SB 1127 – Chapter 230 – workers' compensation; infections disease; exposure

Establishes a workers' compensation claim for the treatment of methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus, spinal meningitis, and tuberculosis for employees with significant exposure.

SB 1203 – Chapter 99 – variable group contracts

Requires a person who sells or offers *variable group contracts* to be licensed by the Department of Insurance as a life insurance producer and defines *variable group annuity* and *variable group contracts*.

SB 1204 – Chapter 158 – group disability insurance; eligible group

Decreases the number of people necessary for a group disability policy from 5 to 2 and eliminates the definition of *participating provider*.

SB 1216 – Chapter 53 – certificates of deposit; government investments

Allows municipalities, school districts, the State Treasurer and political subdivisions to invest in federally insured certificates of deposit. Stipulates which conditions must be met in order for the *investing entities* to invest in CDs.

SB 1242 – Chapter 34 – department of insurance; omnibus

An omnibus act that makes numerous changes to the Department of Insurance (DOI) statutes. Requires an insurer to comply with the director's authority to request evidence pertaining to an investigation concerning the fraud unit. Repeals the requirement that insurers reflect a reduction in annual losses they incur due to the mandatory seat belt law for automobile liability or motor vehicle liability insurance. Clarifies that DOI may deny, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew an insurance producer's license due to that license being previously denied, suspended or revoked in any state.

SB 1296 – Chapter 36 – state servicing banks; procedures

Requires the State Board of Investment (Board) to provide public notice by the first Monday in March of every year to the banks qualified to be a servicing bank of the time and place servicing proposals will be received. Additionally, eliminates the requirement that the Board establish the balance of the bank account maintained by the Treasurer in conjunction with the servicing bank.

SB 1556 – Chapter 173 – *ASRS; postdoctoral scholars; eligibility

Denies Arizona State Retirement System membership eligibility to postdoctoral scholars employed by an Arizona public university.